

PATENT CLAIMS

1 - Particles comprising a core of calcium carbonate and a coating covering at least part of the surface of the core, the coating being carried out in at least two distinct consecutive steps, each step using a different coating agent.

2 - The particles of claim 1 comprising a first coating agent selected from alkylsulfates, sulfonic acids, carboxylic acids, their salts and their esters, fatty alcohols, polyhydric alcohols or mixture thereof, used in the first step, and a second coating agent selected from polyhydric alcohols, esters of carboxylic acids, or mixtures thereof, used in the second step.

3 - The particles of claim 2 wherein the carboxylic acid is a fatty acid and the polyhydric alcohol is a diol or a triol.

4 - The particles of claim 2 wherein the carboxylic acid is stearic acid, and the polyhydric alcohol is 1,2-ethanediol or glycerol.

5 - The particles of claim 2 wherein the carboxylic acid used as the first coating agent is a fatty acid and the ester of carboxylic acid used as second coating agent is a phthalic acid ester.

6 - Process for the preparation of particles conform to any one of claims 1 to 5, in which the particles are first brought into contact with a first coating agent and then a second coating agent is applied to the particles .

7 - Process according to Claim 6 wherein, the second coating agent is applied in liquid, dissolved, solid or gas form.

8 - Use of the particles according to any of the claims 1 to 5 as a filler.

9 - The use according to claim 8 in rubbers, inks, plastisols, sealants, papers, paints, coatings, pharmaceuticals, foods and cosmetics.